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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Extension Service, WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



VICTORY FARM VOLUNTEERS

December 22, 1947

For your information

TO ALL ASSISTANT STATE FARM LABOR SUPERVISORS, VFV:

SUBJECT: News Letter

We are sorry that we have channeled so little information to the field in the past autumn months but you can probably guess that our principal activity here in the VFV office has been the writing of final reports and making preparations for closing the office on January 30. I am confident that this has also consumed much of your time in the State offices for we have had little correspondence from most of you. For this reason we know of few of the developments which may influence youth program activities during the coming year. Some of the information we have may be of interest to you.

W. J. Weaver, New York's VFV Supervisor, writes that "the future of the whole program in New York is uncertain," but adds that "a request has been made by the Department of Agriculture and Markets for an amount in its budget to carry on during 1948 the major part of the costs (of the Farm Cadet program) that were borne during 1947." The outcome, he says, will depend on the 1948 Legislature.

In Vermont, VFV Supervisor Martha Buttrick is still hopeful that some means of continuing the live-in program there may be worked out. Interest has been expressed in various quarters indicating that she may get cooperation from both the State of Vermont and several source-of-recruiting States.

You will be interested to know that W.O. Stark, VFV Supervisor in Kansas, has accepted the task of heading up the farm labor program for the Kansas-State Employment Service and will have headquarters in Topeka.

Leaving the association with those of you who have worked with such earnestness and such enthusiasm in the VFV program is truly an occasion of regret for me. I feel that we have accomplished much in supplying farmers with labor and assuring them that they could go ahead and produce when American food was the most essential material for both war and peace. I feel too that we have put the modern educational maxim of work experience for boys and girls into practice and have made it work. This program we have been able to point out with pride to educators. And many of you know even better than I what our work has done for the boys and girls themselves.

There is a great deal more that I could say in retrospect. Knowing and working with you who have done the jobs in the States is one of my most pleasant

experiences in connection with the Victory Farm Volunteers. Miss Clark asks me to express the same feelings concerning her own associations with you.

Let me wish all of you too a very merry Christmas and a better New Year than you have ever had before.

Sincerely yours,

Irvin H. Schmitt

Irvin H. Schmitt, Chief
Victory Farm Volunteers Division
Extension Farm Labor Program

(Copy to State supervisors,
directors, editors.)

